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ANECDOTES *from the* ROMAN HISTORY.

The Fifth Paper.

WHEN the Honour and Intereſt of *Rome*, the Safety of her own Dominions, and the Defence of her Allies, render'd a War with the King of *Macedon* neceſſary, the People, tho' naturally brave, were, by the Intrigues and Clamours of *Bebius*, prevail'd upon to vote againſt it in the *Comitia*, or *Aſſembly of the Tribes*: Yet ſo much were the Warlike *Romans* to the Force of Reaſon, that when they were again aſſembled by the Conſul *Sulpicius*, his Speech to them had ſuch an Effect, that all the Tribes voted for the War propoſed. Among other Arguments he uſed theſe: 'Romans,— you long for Tranquillity: I wiſh the Gods would grant it, and your Enemies ſuffer you to enjoy its Fruits: But *Philip* is a reſtleſs Prince; we have diſcover'd his Intrigues: Is it not better to carry the War into his Dominions, than to let him pillage our Countries, and ſack our Provinces. If we poſtpone ſending Relief to the *Athenians*, if we do not find the King of *Macedon* Employment in his own Dominions, we may ſee him, and perhaps *Hannibal* with him, croſs the Sea, and renew our Alarms in *Italy*. You know the Friendſhip *Philip* has always had for *Hannibal*— Let then the Fire and Sword be found only in *Macedon*:— You have, ere now, found the good Effects of making *War Abroad*, and preſerving *Peace at Home*: With theſe Sentiments go into the Voting-place, and give your Suffrages: The *Senate*, your *Gods*, and even the *Gods* themſelves, ſolicit you to declare againſt *Philip*.'

Paulus Æmilius, after doing his Country the moſt extraordinary Services, had yet the Mortification of ſeeing the People, by the Intrigues of Men whoſe Ambition was their ſingle Qualification, preferred before him, even to Honours for which he ſtood as Publick Candidate; and it is agreed by Hiſtorians, that he lay neglected by the Publick for Thirteen Years; tho' his Merit was ſo great, that when the Succeſſes of the Popular Favourites requir'd extraordinary Aſſiſtance, the Senate and Tribes at once united in forcing him from his Retirement, 'With as much Earneſtneſs as Ambitious Men uſually ſue for Preferment, and his Glory afterwards raiſed him, tho' a little late in Life, even above Jealouſy itſelf. He was no Flatterer of the People, and would not ſervilely careſs them to make his Way to great Employments: He ſtudied principally to cultivate Virtue, tho' he wanted not the Qualifications of an Orator. A Love of Duty was his Cardinal Virtue, which he proved in all the Offices to which he was promoted.' When the Exigence of State, and the Importunities of the Friends of the Republick, prevailed upon him to accept the Conſulate, he ſpoke to the People with a Freedom uſual only to Great Minds. 'Hitherto (*ſaid he*) your Generals have been too frequently loaded with Calumny: You who ſit quietly in the Port would fain govern the Ship that is ſtruggling in a Storm. You have often charged them with Cowardice, or the Want of Abilities, when you have been Strangers to the Wiſdom that has influenced their Conduct.'

After this, *Æmilius* took all poſſible Care in fitting out an Army anſwerable to the great Undertaking he was entering upon: He had the Succeſs which commonly attends *Caution* and *Capacity*; and, with a total Loſs to the Republick, ſubdued and took Priſoner *Perſes* the Politick and Avaricious King of *Macedon*, thereby reſtoring Peace and Tranquillity to the Roman Allies. And upon his Return to *Rome*, being accompanied with the Pretors *Anicius* and *Octavius*; the firſt of whom had, indeed, tho' with great Difficulty, vanquiſhed the King of the *Illyrians*; and the latter, with the *Roman* Fleet, had reduced the Iſland of *Samothrace*, whither *Perſes*, after his Defeat, had retired for Refuge:— Such was the amazing Caprice of the *Roman* People, that to the Two latter the Honours of a Triumph were not denied, when they were upon the Point of refuſing the ſame Honours to *Æmilius*! 'Whence 'tis 'plain, that Envy moſt readily attacks the moſt 'ſhining Virtues:'— And of *Sulpicius Galba*, who for ſome time *ſerved under him*, it is ſaid, that 'out 'of mere Envy he purſued *Æmilius* with the utmoſt 'Fury.'

To *Æmilius*'s Triumph the Conſent of the Tribes was neceſſary; and not being vain enough to hope to deceive the Senate, *Sulpicius* practiſed every little Art of Malice upon the Soldiers who had reaped proportionate Honours with himſelf, by ſtriving to raiſe in their Breaſts the ſame Envy which ſcorch'd his own; and preſuming upon the natural Inclination in moſt Men to depreciate the Merit of others; in Contradiction to what all who heard him knew, he thus addreſs'd himſelf to the Aſſembly: 'We have now an 'Opportunity (ſaid he) of revenging the Severity of 'an imperious General, who was continually vexing 'us, and turning our Fatigues to his own Glory: 'But he has been very frugal of his Benefactions to 'us.— Let us diſperſe ourſelves in the Tribes, and 'give the People ill Impreſſions of the General: If 'we all agree in our Accounts, we ſhall be believed. 'Let then this rigorous General be made to know, 'that if he has prevented our making our Fortunes, 'we can now obſtruct the Glory he expects.'— Such were the Clamours againſt one of the greateſt Men *Rome* ever ſaw, on an Occaſion of great Glory to his Country and Honour to himſelf:— What then can blunt the Tongue of Envy, what protect Virtue from Calumny and Detraction! Nay, ſo very groundleſs were the Jealouſies raiſed againſt *Paulus Æmilius*, that he, who was by all allowed to be 'above Diſſimulation,' concluded his Speech to the People, before he returned to his beloved Solitude, in thus lamenting the Death of two favourite Sons, who died within a few Days of his Triumph:— 'Even the Fate of *Perſes* is Matter of Envy to me: He has indeed ſeen 'his Children walk before him in Chains, but ſtill 'their Lives afford their Father ſome Glimmering of 'Hope; but I, in the Midſt of your Applauſes, have 'ſeen the laſt of my Sons expire, and went from the 'Triumphal Chariot to the Funeral Pile: Yes, what-'ever it coſts me to appeaſe the Gods, I ſhall have 'great Conſolation, if their Anger reaches only to 'me. Be happy, *Romans*, tho' at my Coſt.'

Thus *Paulus Æmilius*, by the beſt Uſe of the beſt Talents a Man can poſſeſs, beſides the numerous Advantages he obtain'd for his Country, left a moſt ſpotleſs Pattern of publick and private Virtue to his Poſterity: Yet *Rome* ſoon after felt the dreadful Miſchiefs brought upon her by a Man whom Nature had endowed with extraordinary Qualifications for the Service of his Country and of himſelf. *Tiberius Sempronius Gracchus* is allow'd by all Hiſtorians to have been poſſeſſed of Valour and Genius; to have been a Man of virtuous Manners, of obliging Addreſs, graceful in his Perſon, and moſt inexpreſſibly polite; an excellent Orator, and remarkable Oeconomiſt, who equally avoided Avarice and Profuſion.— With ſuch Advantage did *Tiberius Gracchus* appear when he firſt ſolicited Offices of State: And having, with the Conſul *Mancinus*, been, in his Apprehenſion, treated a little ſeverely by the Senate, that auguſt Body 'became execrable in his Eyes, and the Faction of the 'People gained the Aſcendant in his Heart.' Obtaining the Office of one of the *Tribunes*, he bent himſelf wholly to the rendering the Senate odious by every Art he was Maſter of: And the Revival of an old Law, which had never been put in Execution, as it reſtrained the Poſſeſſions of the Nobles within very narrow Limits, was ſure of meeting the Concurrence of at leaſt the leſs thinking among the People: This he undertook, as well out of Reſentment, as from a Thirſt of Glory, and his repeated Harangues were frequently illuſtrated with a Kind of Exclamations which ſeldom fail making Impreſſion upon the Multitude. 'The wild Beaſts (ſaid he) find Dens and 'Paſtures in our Foreſts; but the Natives of our Pro-'vinces have no Retreat in their own Country! They 'are driven from the poor Cottages they inhabited, 'and ramble about in Companies in diſtant Regions, 'ſeeking that Subſiſtence in the Compaſſion of Fo-'reigners, which they uſed to acquire by their La-'bour at home: Shall then the Men who are accu-'ſtomed to handle the Sword and Buckler, be ſo de-'baſed as to be obliged to beg their Bread?'

When *Marcus Octavius Cæcina*, probably from a Senſe of the Confuſion ſuch a Law muſt occaſion, or perhaps from a Perſuaſion of the Impoſſibility of executing it at all, oppoſed the Meaſures of *Gracchus*, how did the latter entreat the People to turn *Octavius* out of Place, and with what Tenderneſs for his Countrymen did he conceal his ſeditious Deſigns— 'As far as I can judge (ſaid he) by the Words and 'Conduct of my Opponent, our Diſpute is only to be 'ended by *Arms* and *Blows*: But the Gods forbid, 'Romans, that by ſtriving to ſecure you a Subſiſtence, 'I ſhould hazard your Lives; Since *Octavius* and my-'ſelf are divided in our Opinions, and the Republick ſuffers by our Diviſions, it is the proper Province of the People to re-eſtabliſh Concord; deter-'mine the Caſe therefore by your Suffrages: If you 'declare the Cauſe I maintain unjuſt, I will readily 'conform to your Sentence: *Your Defender will retire 'to the Solitude of a private Life*, and in ſecret *repine 'at his Diſappointment* in *wanting Power* to make his 'Zeal effectual: But if you think me worthy of be-'ing continued in your Service, deprive him of his 'Office, who alone obſtructs my Wiſhes: As ſoon as 'you have nominated his Succeſſor, the Law will paſs 'without Oppoſition:— And forget not, that the 'Security of the City, and the Happineſs of *Italy* de-'pend upon the Event.'

It muſt, indeed, be confeſs'd, that this Advice was taken, and the Oppoſer of *Gracchus* removed, contrary to *Juſtice*, and former *Precedents*: But what was the Effect? The People were deceived, the Senate inſulted, the malicious Influment of this popular Commotion fell a Victim to his Ambition: And the *Second Africanus*, his Brother-in-law, the Oracle of the Republick, being diſtant from *Rome*, when he heard of the Conduct and Fall of *Gracchus*, receiv'd the News with remarkable Coldneſs, only ſaying, '*Let 'him who dares to imitate him, meet the ſame Fate.*'

ALG. SIDNEY.

HOME PORTS.

Cowes, Jan. 2. Yeſterday came in the Anna Maria, Harbert, from Newcaſtle for Oporto. Sailed the Judith, Martin, from London to Spithead to wait for a Convoy for St. Kitts; and the Hopewell, Reed, from this Place for Bologne. Wind E.

Portſmouth, Jan. 1. Came in the Wickham, Curtis, from Rotterdam.

Deal, Jan. 2. Wind N. W. The Dutch India Man, and the Man of War as per laſt remain.

Arrived at ſeveral Ports.

At Angola on the Coaſt of Guiney, the Betty, Duncomb, of and from London.

At Margate, the Dragon, Bride, from Jamaica, but laſt, (where ſhe had been drove from Deal, having cut away her Maſts in the late furious Storm) from Holland.

At Newcaſtle, the Ulrick and Henry, Brown, from Rotterdam.

LONDON.

A Letter from Falmouth, dated at 10 o'Clock on Saturday Night laſt, ſays, That the Wind had for ſome time blown, and then continued, a violent Storm at E. S. E. which threw a prodigious Sea in, and had driven the Mermaid, Capt. James, from London for Naples; the two Brothers, Capt. Ivory, bound from Cork to Havre de Grace; a French Ship loaden with Salt, and two Briſtol Coaſters, one loaded, the other light, on ſtony Ground, called the Green Bank. Three Dutch Ships and ſeveral Engliſh, as then, rid with all their Anchors out, but they were in great Fear of bad Conſequences from the next high Water, which was to be at One o'Clock on Sunday Morning.

The Coaſt from Eſſex to Newcaſtle is ſtrowed with Wrecks, among whom are ſeveral Colliers; and the Particulars of the Damage done by the Wind and Ice to the Ships in the River (many of whom are now in great Danger) would require more Room than our Paper contains.

We know not yet what Effect the Storm had to the Northward of Newcaſtle, but have little or no Room

Room to hope any Thing could escape, where the Wind made a Lee Shore.

Among others the Mazarine, Capt. PhilipLynch, bound from Riga with Flaxseed for Dublin, was lost in Yarmouth Roads.

Yesterday Morning David Westley, Esq; was marry'd at St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, to Mrs. Watkins, Relict of William Watkins, Esq; a Lady of great Beauty, Merit, and Fortune.

Last Sunday Morning died at his House at Hollyport in the County of Berks, John Conford, Esq; a young Gentleman possessed of a plentiful Estate

Yesterday Morning Samuel Ellis of Chelsea, Esq; was marry'd at Little Chelsea Church to Mrs. Todd, Relict of Thomas Todd, Esq; a very agreeable Lady, with a plentiful Fortune.

Yesterday the following Prizes were drawn in the Bridge Lottery, viz. No. 63633, 61298, 53763, 14982, 39359, 31740, 34363, 36443, each 100 l. No 35480, 41632, 2615, 4139, 14656, 34124, 30172, 33269, 63096, 42472, 35902, 6142, 27775, 8434, 17438, each 50 l.

The Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have appointed Mr. John Allyne to be Surveyor of the Duties on Houses for the County of Leicester, in the Room of Mr. Pochin deceased.

Yesterday began the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the City and Liberty of Westminster, when Sir John Gonson, Kt. Chairman of the said Sessions, gave a learned Charge to the Grand Jury.

At the said Sessions several of the Captains and Lieutenants appointed for the Marines took the Oaths to qualify themselves for their respective Employments.

We hear, that Charles Hanbury Williams, Esq; who was lately appointed Paymaster to the Marines, is rechosen Knight of the Shire for the County of Monmouth.

Yesterday was held a Board of Admiralty, when their Lordships were pleas'd to grant Protections to several Lightermen.

And we are inform'd, that their Lordships will speedily grant Protections to the Masters of Colliers.

Yesterday the Wardmote Jury for the City and Liberty of Westminster, out of their Collections amounting to the Sum of 2301 made in the several Wards within the said City and Liberty, according to annual Custom, discharg'd the several Prisoners who were confin'd for Debt within the Gatehouse Prison in Westminster, by paying their respective Debts and Prison Fees: And the said Jury are now proceeding in the Distribution of the Remainder of their Collections to poor Housekeepers, and other suitable Objects within the several Parishes and Wards of the said City and Liberty.

Notwithstanding the Appearance on Wednesday of the Frost's breaking in Town, Yesterday there were several Booths on the Thames at Brentford, and much Diversion exercis'd thereon, as Skittle-playing, Foot ball, &c.

High Water this Day at London Bridge.	Morning	Evening
	03 25	03 43

Bank Stock 138-3-4ths. India 158 1-4th. South Sea 97. Old Annuity 109 3-4ths. New ditto 109 3-4ths. Three per Cent 100. Seven per Cent Loan 111. Five per Cent. ditto 88 1-half. Royal Assurance 88. London Assurance 11 1-4th. Africa 13 1-half. India Bonds 4 l. 9 s. Prem. South Sea ditto ——. Bank Circulation 2 l. 17 s. 6 d. to 3 l. Prem. Salt Tallies 1-half to 1 Prem. English Copper 3 l. 6 s. 6 d. Welsh ditto 15 s. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 101. Three per Cent. ditto 95. Million Bank 114. Equivalent 112 1-8th. Lottery Tickets 1 l. 14 s. 6 d.

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Thou, mighty Czar, in that contracted Name
Shalt out-reach Cæsar, in thy Pow'r and Fame——
Form and Degrees let earthy Spirits need;
Thy Soul eccentric, moves with inbred Speed,
Makes Nature shake, and raises in a Day
What, with less Ease, in Ages shall decay. Mr. Hill.

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